

25 January 1975

Talking Paper

1. The purpose of the session is three-fold:

First, the Director wishes to establish a community representation as a Communication and Coordination Group to provide cohesiveness to our respective responses to the Senate Select Committee.

It is important that there be a cooperative and free-flow of information about proposed testimony to the various reviewing committees, and that we, here, are all fully aware of the principles of the various agencies approaches which may come up in the course of the next six months.

I have provided to them a package containing the Senate Resolution Number 21 and other papers, and we will return to this in a moment.

Second, we needed to have a high-level representation on USIB which could provide inputs in their respective agencies to the Director, both in the form of ideas and content for testimony.

The President expects the Director to continue to provide leadership to the Community, and the Director, in turn, wants to be certain that he has the best advice possible from the Community in these matters. He expects to be the first person called and, therefore, will be setting the tone, hopefully, for the inquiries. He wants at this time to take some initiatives in proposing improved arrangements to U.S. intelligence activities.

Third, we are gathered to establish at this point in time, and without a full appreciation of what the Senate Select Committee will do, or indeed of its full membership, from a common appreciation of the potential scope of the subject matter. The Director would like us to discuss any ideas the Agency might have on the proposed strategy, and on any positive proposals that might be useful for him to consider suggesting to the Committee.

For example:

(1) He wants to encourage legislation on protection of sources and methods.

(2) He wants to amend the CIA law to include the term "foreign" before the word "intelligence" in several places in the Act.

(3) He has been working with the Attorney General, the FBI, and others on a new NSCID concerning the ground rules of respective surveillance in the U.S. and foreign installations. The Commission has implied, and the Director is interested in, clarifying any fuzziness which may exist in CIA-FBI relationships, and even broadening selective aspects of this within the Executive Branch to other community agencies.

Fourth, Mr. Colby has some ideas about NSCID's. We have been working on Omnibus NSCID -- a codification, etc. It may be time to consider formulating an Executive Order thereby providing a somewhat more public structuring of the responsibilities and assignments of the various intelligence agencies. This, of course, has many security *implications* (revisions) -- I mention it simply as another example.

There are other proposals that are coming in from the CIA Deputies with respect to that agency, and in the same pattern, the IC Staff would like to solicit from you any suggestions or viewpoints you may have that would be useful to the Director in preparing for his testimony, and in proposing new initiatives. Time is short, we would like to have these papers here by close of business Wednesday. A very informal, suggestion-type input.

To begin today, Hank Knoche has been dealing with the Director on the President's Commission, and is the central point for preparing the Director for his Congressional presentations to date.

The Director has assigned the IC Staff, and me in particular, with the responsibility to work directly with Hank on the Senate Select Committee Investigations, since it is clear these are going to broaden the entire U.S. intelligence framework. I have asked Hank to report to you now on some observations he may have gleaned from his experience to date, and to articulate some of the more precise instructions the Director has extended on this entire matter.

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Talking Points for USIB on Senate Select Committee

1. Importance of Intelligence Community working closely together in reasonably united fashion along mutually acceptable, common guidelines. There may be a tendency on the part of separate agencies and elements of the Community given the legislative liaison channels which each of them enjoys to the Congress to function separately with their own lobbies. This could be particularly the case with the military services. Obviously we wish to avoid the impression of overstructuring our approach and complete collision, but it is essential that we not appear to be in disarray. You might stress your objective of turning the review into a constructive opportunity to reenforce the role of intelligence and possibly clarify any ambiguities in Congressional oversight of the Community.

2. Clearly the President will expect you to assume the leadership role throughout the conduct of these inquiries. Undoubtedly, the first appearance and presentation to the Senate Select Committee will be that of the DCI. It is important for the other agency heads not only to be fully aware of your thrust and the major points you will be making but also for them to have full opportunity to make suggested inputs. Your appearance can become the tone center for the entire process.

3. To this end, we are suggesting that you announce as your representative to work from the IC Staff with senior representatives

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of the other agencies' chiefs to assure compatability of views and coordination of presentation materials from within the Community and their treatment in a consistent fashion with Congressional staff and counsel.